

REMARKS

Claims 1-17, 20, and 22-58 were pending in the present Application, wherein Claims 14-17, 20, 22-26, 28, 30-34, and 48-51 are withdrawn. Claims 1-13, 27, 29, 35-47, and 52-58 stand rejected.

Claims 20 and 22-26 have been amended to correct claim dependency in view of the previous cancellation of Claim 18. No new matter has been added.

Reconsideration and allowance of the claims are respectfully requested in view of the following remarks.

Miscellaneous

Withdrawn Claims 2, and 22-26 stand rejected under 35 USC 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention

The rejection has been rendered moot by way of amendment.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

A. Claims 1-13, 27, 29, 35-47, 52-55, 57 and 58 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), as allegedly unpatentable over Suzuri in view of various combinations with other references. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

The priority date of the present application is March 26, 2003, which predates Suzuri's December 17, 2003 publication date. In view of the foregoing, the Suzuri reference is not prior art and any rejections that include Suzuri are inherently deficient. A certified copy in English of Applicants' priority document is provided herewith.

In view of the foregoing, the rejection is requested to be withdrawn.

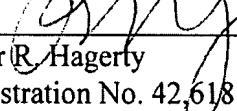
It is believed that the foregoing amendments and remarks fully comply with the Office Action and that the claims herein should now be allowable to Applicants. Accordingly, reconsideration and allowance are requested.

If there are any additional charges with respect to this Amendment or otherwise, please charge them to Deposit Account No. 06-1130.

Respectfully submitted,

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